WITH McCORMICKS DIVORCED, DUAL ROMANCE IS HINTED; OPERA SINGER AND YOUNG PSYCHO-ANALYST MENTIONED

MAY MARRY FINANCIER

Madame Ganna Walska, Mysterious Polish Singer, Now in Paris Seeking Freedom From Alexander Smith Cochran.

IVIDED by a divorce decree after twenty-six years of marriage Mr. and Mrs. Harold F. McCormick remain today the cynosure of argus-eyed American society. From coast to coast every social gathering brings forth the questions:

"Whom will He marry now?"

"Whom will She marry

That both will re-marry is conidered highly probable, and that one of the divorced couple will do so is set down as a certainty by close friends who have followed the extraordinary romance between the president of the International Harvester Company and the daughter of John D. Rockefeller from its budding to its blighting.

Else why, ask the wise ones, was the divorce so amiably agreed to. when a mere separation would have seemed almost as suitable for two persons, both past the prime of life and with three children? WILL BOTH REMARRY.

Else why was the whole proceeding conducted so noiselessly from the filing of the original complaint to the handing down of the decree? Else why was every effort exerted, and with such success, to make the action swift and painless, so that Mr. McCormick did not even appear in court, Mrs. McCormick was not even cross-examined, and the final papers granting her a divorce were signed forty-five minutes after the opening of the trial in Chicago?

That either of the McCormicks would have opposed to the ultimate extreme any attempt of the other to obtain freedom unless there was mutual benefit is conceded by those who are in close touch with the family. Since Mr. McCormick made no settlement of record on his wife and permitted her to gain a divorce with only the semblance of a contest, it is deduced generally that both expected to gain considerable by the decree in the future.

TWO ROMANTIC FIGURES.

Through the haze of dublety that settled over the McCormicks' separate sundered careers as the decree was signed two romantic figures were vaguely outlined-Ganna Walska, the mysterious Polish soprano, who was developed by Mr. McCormick for the Chicago Opera Company, and Edwin Krenn, the young Austrian architect and psychoanalyst, who has become Mrs. Mc-Cormick's personal secretary and confident. That these strange figures will exert even a stronger influence in the future than they have in the past on the lives of the Mc-Cormicks is looked on as a foregone

Ganna Walska is in Paris now, preparing for a divorce from Alexnder Smith Cochran, "the carpet king of America." It would surprise no one familiar with French marital methods if a divorce had already been granted there, for it has frequently happened in the last decade that Americans have obtained secret divorces in Paris and have kept the fact from public notice for many months.

Co-incidentally, Mme. Walska's counsel, Dudley Field Malone, and his bride, Doris Stevens, are also in Paris just now. Society expects that this divorce will develop swiftly now that the McCormicks are officially freed of their matrimonial fettersand society will be astonished if the harvester magngate does not lead the fair, temperamental, exotic Pole to the altar-or, at least, to a justice of

NOT A BREATH OF SCANDAL.

Meantime there is seen in the methods pursued in the McCormick divorce an object lesson for all other hopelessly mismated couples of prominence. The disorganization of the family was carried out on pneumatic tires so 'o speak, without the honking of a horn, without the glare of publicity and without violating a single traffic law or attracting a

crowd. At 11:04 o'clock on Wednesday morning, Mrs. McCormick filed a bill of complaint asking for a divorce in the superior court of Chicago, charging her husband with de-

The proceedings came unheralded. The session of court had been idle for an hour when Mrs. McCormick entered the room. She was accompanied by two household servants. who served as her witnesses, and her lawyers. She took the stand im-

OPERA STAR Two charming portraits of Mme. Ganna Walska, the mysterious Polish opera singer, whose matrimonial adventures have been the talk of two continents. She is now seeking a Paris divorce from Alexander Cochran.



"Your name?" Charles C. Cutting, her attorney, began the for-

mal questioning. "Edith Rockefeller McCormick,"

DESERTED, SHE SAYS.

She continued her complaint formally and unemotionally. She said: "I was married to Harold Mc-Cormick on Nevember 26, 1895. Three children born of the marriage are living. They are Harold Fowler, jr., Muriel and Mathilde, Mr. McCormick deserted me in Zurich, Switzerland, where I was then living, on May 27, 1918."

"Did he tell you his reason?" Attorney Cutting asked.

"He did not." "Was there any reason?" the at-

torney continued. "There was not. He never re-

turned to me since then." Witnesses for the plaintiff met only the requirements of the law in number. They were Miss Ella Buckel, Mrs. McCormick's personal maid, and Mrs. Louise Beley, a do-

mestic in her household. Miss Buckel related that she had been in Mrs. McCormick's employ since 1910 and that she had been with her constantly during her recent eight years' residence in Zurich.

"Do you recall anything that happened on May 27, 1918, in Zurich?" Mr. Cutting asked her.

"Mr. McCormick went away." "Have you ever seen him since?" Mrs. Harold F. McCormick, who has just won a decree in Chicago. "Yes. In Zurich twice, in the

living." "Did Mr. McCormick stay at that hotel?"

Hotel Bauer Au Lac, where we were

MAID TESTIFIES "He had a room in the hotel, but not in Mrs. McCormick's apart-

ment," the maid answered.

She further related that she returned with her mistress on her recent voyage back to New York,

that Mrs. McCormick'e quarters were removed from those of her husband and that he had never occupied rooms in the home at No. 1000 Lake Shore Drive since Mrs. McCormick had returned to it.

Mrs. Beley stated that she had worked for Mrs. McCormick since 1907, first in Chicago and after in Switzerland. She corrob ated the account of Miss Buckel concerning McCormick's departure from his wife in Zurich, three years ago.

At this point Judge McDonald interpolated his only question during

the procedure. He asked: "That separation was entirely without fault on Mrs. McCormick's

"Entirely," the witness answered. Mrs. McCormick hurried from the courtroom after the decree was granted. She refused to be interviewed.

EIGHT YEARS ABROAD.

part, was it not?"

Mrs. McCormick returned to the United States from Europe late in September after an exile of eight years from America. She was welcomed in New York as the daughter of America's richest man. Her husband was at the pier. But he did not go with her into the country to visit her father. They went to Chicago from New York on separate trains. On her arrival Mrs. Mc-Cormick denied she contemplated

"Nothing is further from my mind than divorce," she was quoted as saying. "I saw Mr. McCormick three times in Zurich, two weeks ago and we had some pleasant conversations.

"I am a psychologist and I believe in freedom of action. I am very human and think it is a beautiful idea if two people enjoy each other's society and if one can help the other, that they should be permitted to do so."

The paths of Mr. McCormick and

which for many years they had held as a hobby. Rumors of a contemplated divorce persisted. McCormick finally admitted that he and Mrs. McCormick had parted.

pear, preferably in "Zaza"-that re-

markable work in which she regis-

tered a complete failure a year ago.

It was this melodramatic crash

that precipitated, in the opinion of

the wiseacres, first the Cochran di-

vorce proceedings and, secondly, the

McCormick open break. For, to

paraphrase the Celtic song, wher-

ever there has been Ganna there

has been trouble since the mys-

terious singer came to this country

from parts only conjectured nearly

ten years ago. She is the stormy

petrel of the musical world, beauti-

ful and daring as a petrel, and, ac-

cording to critics, with compara-

tively the same lack of vocal ac-

complishments, though she is ob-

sessed by the belief that she can

The one outstanding exception is

Harold F. McCormick, who in the

long absence of his wife has domi-

nated the destinies of the Chicago

Opera Company. While communing

with her counsel in Paris and pre-

paring for the divorce from Coch-

ran, Mme. Walska is undergoing

strengous coaching and endless re-

hearsing preliminary to another in-

It is one of the Ironies of the sit-

uation that it was Harold McCor-

mick who introduced her to the

man she married when all three-

were fellow-passengers on the

Aquitania. At that time the Yonk-

ers carpet millionaire was Ameri-

vasion of American opera.

rival the greatest of sopranos.

Two subdued features of the divorce proceeding are attracting considerable attention, as the case is reviewed now. The first is that Mr. McCormick, while denying the specific charge of desertion, admitted in papers filed that he had been apart from his wife during the period mentioned.

NO RULING ON CHILDREN.

The second important point was that no reference was made to the future of the children, either by the witnesses or by the court-and none of the children was present at the proceeding. It is believed that Muriel and Harold, at least, will stand with their father, while Mathilda is expected to go with the mother. But no judicial ruling on the custody of the children was made by the court.

Justice McDonald, after signing the decree, declared that he knew nothing of any settlement, and added that since both parties to the action were immensely wealthy no settlement had been considered

Mr. McCormick, who did not appear in court, was also reported to be absent from h'; office, and his secretary stated that no questions concerning the divorce could be anWIFE SEEN OFTEN WITH SECRETARY

Mrs. McCormick Has Taken Deep Interest in New Science Founded by Famous Dr. Carl Jung-Social Aid Is Faddist.

ca's wealthiest bachelor and the harvester magnate was more or less encumbered with a wife. So Mme. Walska married the New York bachelor, and despite this the Chicago benedict did not permit his interest to wane. MADAME'S CAREER.

Mme. Walska originally attempted to break into American music via Hammerstein's Music Hall, the old Victoria, on Forty-second street, where she appeared in an Oriental sketch and failed to score. Soon after her engagement was announced and broken to a Brooklyn bachelor. Then she was wed to Dr. Joseph Frankel, the distinguished specialist on nervous diseases, who died soon afterward, leaving her a magnificent house and the bulk of his estate. Their marriage was a rapid-fire romance, with the climax an elopement and a ceremony in secret before a Westchester justice of the peace.

Mme. Walska had told the world that she was the wife of a German military officer, Baron Arcadie d'Eingorn. She wept over a cablegram she said she received, telling of his death in the Masurian campaign, when Hindenberg hit the Russian line. But when she married Dr. Frankel she said she knew not whether the baron was living or dead, but that she had been divorced from him in St. Petersburg. When asked where her divorce decree was she naively explained that she had lost it. Neither her father nor mother, as she stated in her application for a marriage license, bore the name of Ganna or Walska, and she offered no explanation of her own possession of it.

Soon after her husband's death, she attempted "Thais" in Havana and failed disastrously. She sued the impresario who had engaged her and he sued or threatened to sue in return, and the case never reached a public conclusion.

SHE MARRIES COCHRAN.

Then came the meeting and the marriage with Cochran in Paris and her return alone to try "Zaza," which caused Conductor Marinuzzi to throw his baton up in disgust and quit the orchestra. Came then the dramatic demand of Mr. McCormick that the singer be permitted to play the role in public and while it was threatening to disrupt the whole company Walska took flight tor Europe and Mary Garden emerged from the chaos at the head of the

Mme. Walska's prodigality with money may be indicated by her answer to newspapermen who en countered her at the pier and asked for an explanation of the "Zaza" debacle. She replied:

"I would not make a statement

And as none of the reporters pres ent was able to bid above the figure no statement was forthcoming. In an early interview she expressed her general contempt for men. which she had frequently reiterated

in this form: "American men fall far short of the ideal as lovers or husbands! My husband must be my slave, but it is hard to find men in America who are willing to be slaves. Husbands are hindrances to art. They get in the way. Even a fiance is

And this is Walska epitomized as completely as she has revealed her philosophy of the heart.

MRS. M'CORMICK'S ROMANCE. So much for the woman whose name is most frequently linked by gossip in and out of society with that of Harold F. McCormick. As for Mrs. McCormick, a far different environment of the past and presumably of the future is conjectured.

On the stand Mrs. McCormick as serted that she and her husband had not lived together since May 27, 1918. Mrs. McCormick was then ensconsed in Zurich, Switzerland, ending the fifth year of her voluntary exile from America.

It was on this May day in 1918 that Harold McCormick found himself "out of rapport". with his wife. This spiritual alienation became more and more marked, particularly after Mrs. McCormick (from girlhood a forceful original character with the "power complex" always in the ascendency) embarked upon new and during experiments synthetic

T' e e experiments included a "prothe form the tour ince of the toled psycloutalyzant. if w. ... retreat, near Zurich, Mrs. (Continued on Page 6.)